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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/821,665	04/09/2004	Chien-Min Sung	22762	8792

7590

07/01/2005

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EXAMINER

RACHUBA, MAURINA T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3723

DATE MAILED: 07/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/821,665

Applicant(s)

SUNG, CHIEN-MIN

Examiner

M Rachuba

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3723

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 May 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 14-26 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 and 27-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 7/9/04, 9/21/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of group 1 in the reply filed on 02 May 2005 is acknowledged.
2. Claims 14-26 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 02 May 2005.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-13 and 27-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hibbard et al US005454844A in view of Homola US 20040096705A1.

'844 discloses the claimed invention except for the use of nanodiamond particles have a particle size from about 1 nm to about 50 nm or from about 2 nm to about 10 nm; the nanodiamond particles include a carbonaceous coating; or the nanodiamond particles are synthesized by an explosion synthesis process. '705, in a fixed abrasive tool, teaches using nanodiamond particles have a particle size from about 1 nm to about 50 nm or from about 2 nm to about 10 nm; the nanodiamond particles include a

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carbonaceous coating (the result of the explosion synthesis process); or the nanodiamond particles are synthesized by an explosion synthesis process, [0005], [0007], [0009], [0026], [0029], [0030]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have provided '844 with the nanodiamond particles taught by '705, to produce a smoother workpiece surface with enhanced properties [0030].

Further, '844 does not disclose the exact loading ratio, but does disclose that forming the predetermined three dimensional layer and proper spacing of the projections does reduce loading (see column 5, lines 18-43. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have provided '844 with projections spaced apart the distance required to provide the tool with a loading ration of from about 0.005 to about 0.5, since it has been held that where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or workable ranges involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Aller*, 105 USPQ 233. Here, one of ordinary skill would know to space the projections from each other to ensure optimum material removal without build up of material between the projections.

'844 does not disclose the material removal rate of from about 10 angstroms/minute to about 1000 angstroms/minute, that the solvent (water) dissolves the matrix at points of contact at a rate from about 1 angstroms/minute to about 100 angstroms/minute. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have provided '844 with the desired rate of material removal, or desired rate of matrix dissolution, since it has been held that where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or

workable ranges involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Aller*, 105 USPQ 233. Here, the amount of material removal depends not just on the type or size of abrasive particles, but the workpiece material, and the relative pressures and speed of relative motion between the tool and workpiece.

Conclusion


5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Other tools using nanodiamond particles are cited of interest.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to M Rachuba whose telephone number is 571-272-4493. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Hail can be reached on 571-272-4485. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

M Rachuba
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3723


6/28/05